	NDONED APPLICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.14	
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[45] Date of Patent:

Patent Number:

May 12, 1998

Weiss et al.

[54] IN VITRO GROWTH AND PROLIFERATION OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED MULTIPOTENT NEURAL STEM CELLS AND THEIR PROGENY

United States Patent 1191

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Related U.S. Application Data

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[51]	Int. Cl.6	
		C12N 5/10; C12P 1/00
[52]	U.S. Ci	

435/325; 435/368; 435/377; 435/384; 435/392;

435/69.1, 69.52, 325, 368, 377, 384, 392,

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ABSTRACT

A method for producing genetically modified neural cells comprises culturing cells derived from embryonic, juvenile. or adult mammalian neural tissue with one or more growth factors that induce multipotent neural stem cells to proliferate and produce multipotent neural stem cell progeny which include more daughter multipotent neural stem cells and undifferentiated progeny that are capable of differentiating into neurons, astrocytes, and oligodendrocytes. The proliferating neural cells can be transfected with exogenous DNA to produce genetically modified neural stem cell progeny. The genetic modification can be for the production of biologically useful proteins such as growth factor products, growth factor receptors, neurotransmitters, neurotransmitter receptors, neuropeptides and neurotransmitter synthesizing genes. The multipotent neural stem cell progeny can be continuously passaged and proliferation reinitiated in the presence of growth factors to result in an unlimited supply of neural cells for transplantation and other purposes. Culture conditions can be provided that induce the genetically modified multipotent neural stem cell progeny to differentiate into neurons, astrocytes, and oligodendrocytes in vitro.

40 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets